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PATENT
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: TOBIAS DASSLER - 2 (PCT)
PCT NO.: PCT/EP2003/013728
FILED: DECEMBER 4, 2003
TITLE: METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION OF R- α -LIPOIC ACID BY
FERMENTATION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP PCT

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the initial Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.